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# Sub-Saharan Africa Report

FOUO No. 709



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## SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

LIBYAN INTERVENTION REPORTEDLY BRINGS NEW ERA TO CHAD

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 pp 3511, 3512

[Article by F.G.: "A New Era for Chad and Africa"]

[Text] His victory barely solidified, President Goukouni Oueddei appealed to France for aid in the reconstruction of Chad and its capital, devastated by war.

Likewise Fekoua Laoukissan, minister plan of the Provisional National Union Government (GUNT), has asked the OAU to form a technical commission to institute a "Marshall Plan" for Chad. The minister estimates that the destruction caused by the civil war will come to more than 200 billion CFA francs, not counting aid for the relocation of refugees.

At the same time GUNT insists on its desire for peace. It denounces the demands of the defeated enemy, reporting having found graveyards in N'djamena before it is even known whether they are not perhaps cemeteries. It complains of a defamation campaign directed toward the outside world and minimizes, as does Libya, against all evidence to the contrary, the importance of the intervention of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's men in all of northern Chad.

The convergence of GUNT's diplomatic offensive with that of Libya is noteworthy. Tripoli unceremoniously attacks Washington: the State Department had expressed the "concern of the United States over the Libyan intervention in Chad." A spokesman for the JANA press agency in turn accused "the American Government of wanting to intervene in the internal affairs of Africa and of Chad."

There is a more conciliatory tone used toward Paris: on 22 December Francois-Poncet received Ahmed Chahati, Libyan secretary of state for foreign affairs, at the Quai d'Orsay. He told him that a rapid evacuation of Libyan troops from Chad and their replacement by an inter-African force capable of acting as intermediary between the different factions of the Chad Army would be helpful. But for Libya, and as well as for GUNT, there are no longer any enemy factions since the legitimate government of Chad, with the help of a friendly nation, has defeated the rebels.

Furthermore, French criticism of the Libyan intervention has been indirect: in the 13 December communique from the Elysee Palace just before the departure of Hissein Habre as well as in the statements made to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly on 19 December by Francois-Poncet, who expressed France's "disapproval" of "what seemed to be a serious violation," on the part of one of the cosigners, of the terms of the 1978 Lagos accords on Chad.

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Despite criticism by the public and by French political parties of this kind of detachment on the part of a government which seems unsure of its goals, the government insists on the contrary that there are strict limits imposed on its action. Robert Galley took it upon himself to say that France could not intervene in Chad as it had in Zaire because the Ndjamenan government had not asked for its help and the Lagos accords "explicitly" demanded the removal of French troops from the Chad capital.

This attitude does not prevent France, according to Francois-Poncet, from "perfectly understanding the concern shown by the African states." President Senghor has expressed this concern forcefully several times. Other statements have echoed it. Undoubtedly the most notable statement appears in the final communique of the UDEAC [Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa] meeting of heads of state (from Cameroon, the Central African Republic, the Congo and Gabon) in Brazzaville on 19 December. After listening to Colonel Kamougue, GUNT vice president, assure them that Chadians are intransigent nationalists, these heads of state in effect demanded that all countries refrain from interfering or intervening in Chad's affairs in any way.

But the OAU and the countries worried about the Libyan Army's successes have no intention of making a military response to Colonel al-Qadhafi's offensive. In the absence of means of its own, the pan-African organization should appeal to the United Nations if it wants a neutral force in Chad. Diplomacy is the way to calm fears created by the present situation.

Thus, on 23 December a conference of the OAU ad hoc subcommittee took place in Lagos, including, in addition to representatives of the various Chad parties, representatives of Sierra Leone (guaranteeing chairing by the OAU), Benin, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Congo, Guinea, Niger, Libya, Nigeria, Senegal, Sudan and Togo, to examine the consequences of the signing of the Lome accords last 28 November. These accords call for the demilitarization of N'djamena and the removal of foreign troops from Chad. They were signed by President Goukouni Oueddei, but Hissein Habre refused to initial them because the text did not condemn Libya. Since his defeat, the FAN (Northern Armed Forces) leader grudgingly signed the accords in Yaounde on 16 December.

At first President Goukouni Oueddei refused to go to Lagos. He felt that Habre's defeat nullified the Lome accords. Vice President Kamougue, on the other hand, was noticeably pleased at the prospect of the conference. The GUNT president finally decided to go to the Nigerian capital. But this was only to discuss the reconstruction of Chad and only under the condition that Hissein Habre be kept out of the discussions between 10 heads of state and Libyan representative Triki.

In the end the meeting came to nothing. Thus, there is cause for concern about the implications for Africa of a new era in the history of Chad opening up after the success of Colonel al-Qadhafi's troops in N'djamena, a success all the more remarkable for the logistics involved, since it had been necessary to transport tanks thousands of kilometers through the desert and on poor roads.

Since FROLINAT controls the Tibesti passes, it could have stopped any Libyan invasion. It did not this time. And actually, as is being said in N'djamena,

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it is no longer an invasion but an alliance. Last June's Libya-Chad treaty goes so far as to speak of the common destiny of the two peoples.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's ambitions went through several stages. First he exhumed an old French-Italian treaty to challenge the internationally recognized borders of independent Libya and to annex the Aouzou strip. He then established numerous relations with FROLINAT, or at least with some of its members, because the Chad revolutionary movement quickly lost its facade of unity. Finally, after many ups and downs the men in power in N'djamena asked for his help in gaining a victory which was slow in coming.

This is not an innocent alliance. A Libyan administration would be established in northern Chad, as had been previously done for the Aouzou strip alone. The Dar es Islam, dominated by Tripoli, would naturally be called upon to strengthen secular ties, which have never really been broken, between the Mediterranean coastline, the Fezzan and the territories extending south toward Lake Chad and Chari. Thus despite the declarations of Chad unity, these areas will move away from what was called "useful Chad" and what was actually another climate, another civilization, another world. This tendency has already begun.

France has undoubtedly been waiting for GUNT to call for economic aid, as it is doing, in order once again to have a presence in N'djamena and in northern Chad. It is certainly an enormous task to rebuild the entire economy of a country. It is hard to imagine who would be capable of doing it besides the former colonial rulers.

Is there also betting on nationalist reactions, future disputes, to predict a short-lived Libyan victory in the mess which Chad will become? That is possible, but it is disturbing that France should have sat back passively and watched Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's victory in N'djamena.

Whatever immediate ambitions the visionary Libyan leader may have are only partly the cause of the fears of South-Saharan Africa. These fears arise as much from the vague perception that an era is ending, the colonial heritage of an era of stability which the OAU has made its creed.

For the first time in nearly a century the barrier imposed by European powers between the Mediterranean and Subsaharan Africa has been pierced where it was the weakest, in the Tibesti. There should be cause for concern because the area around Lake Chad is also the center of gravity of the entire continent.

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

WEST AFRICAN CENTRAL BANK BOARD MEETS IN NIAMEY

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3531

[Text] The Board of Directors of the Central Bank of West African States (Benin, Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Niger, Senegal, and Togo) met on 19 December in Niamey and took note of their unfavorable external position, a communique reports.

According to the communique, the board asked member governments to continue their efforts for a lasting recovery of West African Monetary Union (UMOA) finances.

It considered it necessary for member governments to strengthen measures taken in the monetary and public finance area and advised them to apply for funds from the International Monetary Fund with a view to balance of payments adjustment.

On the basis of recommendations by the UMOA Council of Ministers, the board set 1981 maximums for Central Bank interventions in each of the states and adopted the body of provisions relating to money and credit, in particular regarding changing the Currency Issuing Institute over to a monthly system of refinancing, handling preliminary authorizations, and monitoring the level of external debt of the banks. The board also approved the Central Bank's books for 1979-1980.

The Monetary Situation as of 30 June 1980

The Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) recently issued its periodic analysis of the monetary situation as of 30 June 1980 of the West African Monetary Union (UMOA) which encompasses six countries: Benin, Ivory Coast, Upper Volta, Niger, Senegal, and Togo.

The 1979-1980 agricultural season was mainly characterized by the appearance of drought areas in certain Sahel countries and by a price decline for the main agricultural products exported by the countries of the union, which has slowed crop sales. Also, the economies of member countries were strongly affected by price increases for their oil supplies.

Therefore the UMOA monetary situation during the period from 30 June 1979 to 30 June 1980 was marked by an appreciable deterioration in its net external position, a drop in the growth of domestic credit following on a reduction in the rate of credit expansion in the economy, slower monetary expansion, and a drop in the annual rate of increase in Central Bank assistance to banks and financial establishments.

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Over the course of the 12 months, the net external assets position strongly declined due to the deterioration in trade balances and the increase in service expenditures in certain countries in the union. The negative balance on 30 June 1980 was the equivalent of 211.7 billion CFA francs, compared with an overall negative balance of 8 billion CFA francs at the end of June 1979. The only creditors were Niger and Togo, while Ivory Coast (-146.6 billion CFA francs), Senegal (-94.8 billion) and Benin (-20.6 billion) had considerable external debt. In Ivory Coast, the decline is attributable to a worsening of the balance on current account due to the policy of withholding cocoa and to the rise in imports. In Senegal, the increased deficit is the result of an increased deficit in the trade balance.

The national treasuries on an overall basis had a debt of 4.6 billion CFA francs on 30 June 1980 as against a surplus of 87.4 billion a year before. Senegal, Togo and Upper Volta are debtors while the three other countries were in the black.

The volume of credit went from 1.191 trillion CFA francs at the end of June 1979 to 1.399 trillion at the end of June 1980 (+17.5 percent), a slower rise than the one recorded between July 1978 and June 1979 (+26.6 percent). In Niger the heavy demand for credit is the result of bank assistance to the mining sector for uranium mining.

From 30 June 1979 to 30 June 1980, money in circulation went from 264 billion to 305 billion CFA francs. The increase was particularly sizable in Ivory Coast (+24.3 percent). Over the same period, the total amount of private sector bank deposits went up from 500.4 billion to 645 billion CFA francs; the increase was particularly notable in Ivory Coast (+43.7 percent) while Senegal showed a slight decline (-0.3 percent). The situation was the reverse with regard to public sector bank deposits, which fell from 215 billion to 123 billion CFA francs, but the decline was mainly in Ivory Coast due to massive withdrawals made by the Caisse de Stabilisation [government marketing authority for primary products].

From June 1979 to June 1980 total credits refinanced by the Central Bank went up from 314 billion to 397.4 billion CFA francs (+26.7 percent, as compared with +44.3 percent the year before). Although the Central Bank's financing role diminished in Upper Volta and Senegal during this period, it was enhanced in the four other countries in the monetary union.

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

FRENCH PRIORITIES IN AFRICA--The French Foreign Trade Center (CFCE) has placed Nigeria on the list of the twelve "first priority" countries, along with two other African countries, Algeria and Zimbabwe. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 30 Jan 81 p 254]

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ANGOL.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY SEEN SLOW IN COMING

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 295

[Text] Despite increased revenue from oil, whose production of 9 million tons should double by 1985 with the exploitation of recently discovered deposits, Angola's economic situation has been improving at a very slow rate. The Angolan national oil company, SONANGOL, started operating the new Soyo II oil field in the northern part of the country at the end of 1980. In July 1980, Elf-Aquitaine obtained a contract for off-shore exploration and exploitation of possible deposits. However, American firms remain largely absent.

The state agricultural sector has been encountering difficulties in meeting the production goals assigned to it. For 1980, coffee exports have been estimated at 48,000 tons (a decrease of 20 percent), or, in other words, one-fourth of the 1973 production. Income from the 1980 exports has been estimated at 160 million kwanzas (1 kwanza = 0.15 French francs).

In 1979 the DIAMANG company (77 percent of its stock is held by the state) produced over 1 million carats compared to 770,000 in 1979. Production for 1980 could reach 1.5 million carats.

France is an important commercial partner of Angola; its 1980 sales will probably amount to 500 million francs. However, Eastern bloc countries still occupy first place in Angolan foreign trade.

The Benguela-Lobito railroad is technically in a position to transport copper ore from Shaba and Zambia, but security problems continue to hamper operations. In March, Angola nationalized the Angolan Manganese Company, since accumulated losses exceeded its capital.

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ANGOLA

BRIEFS

FAPLA DELEGATION TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA--A delegation from the political section of the People's Armed Forces of Angola (FAPLA) has left for Prague on a friendship visit. The delegation had been invited by Gen Antonin Brabec, chief of the political section of the People's Army of Czechoslovakia. It is led by Dino Matrosse, deputy minister of defense and member of the political secretariat of the MPLA. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 23 Jan 81 p 208]

FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION--The French parliamentary delegation headed by Maxime Kalinsky, the communist deputy who is the president of the Franco-Angolan Friendship Group of the National Assembly, ended its visit to Luanda on 28 January. During a press conference in the Angolan capital, the president and the members of this delegation referred to the development of economic cooperation between two countries and to political problems: the "non-declared" war in which Angola is suffering from South African aggression, the need for Namibia to obtain without delay an internationally recognized independence and the use by Pretoria of French-manufactured weapons, even though France has not been selling armaments to South Africa since 1977. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 329]

USSR MILITARY DELEGATION--A Soviet military delegation headed by Rear Admiral Valentin Vlasov arrived in Luanda on 26 January for a 12-day visit to Angola "within the framework of the reinforcement of military cooperation between the two countries." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 329]

JOINT COMMISSION WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA--The Czechoslovakia-Angola commission met in Luanda from 20 to 22 January to review the situation which has evolved since the first session took place in Prague in June 1979. The Czechoslovak delegation included notably Andrej Barcak, minister of foreign trade and Bohimil Urban, minister of industry. The Angolan delegation was headed by Bento Ribeiro, minister of industry, assisted by Adolfo Nsikalangu, state secretary for cooperation and Graciano Mande, deputy minister of agriculture for forestry affairs. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 329]

SONANGOL DIRECTIVES--Following the publication of the SONANGOL communique inviting foreign companies to submit bids for oil exploration, it is specified that these bids concern the off-shore bloc No 1 and that they should be submitted by 28 February. Negotiations to award the contract are planned for the month of March. SONANGOL wishes that oil exploration conducted by foreign companies--which has been

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so far limited to the northern part of Angola--should now include the southern part of the country as well. Off-shore oil exploration is divided into 13 blocs; however, only bloc No 2 in the Congo basin--now exploited by Texaco--has been operating so far. Exploration in bloc No 3 had been awarded last July to the French company Elf-Aquitaine. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 329]

FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATES--A French parliamentary delegation arrived in Luanda on 21 January for a 1-week visit. The delegation was invited by the Angolan League of Friendship and Solidarity With Peoples (LAASP) and was led by a French communist deputy, Maxime Kalinski, who is also chairman of the parliamentary Franco-Angolan friendship group. The visit took place 1 week after the visit of French Foreign Minister Jean Francois-Poncet to Angola. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 30 Jan 81 p 268]

YUGOSLAV COMMUNIST LEAGUE DELEGATION--A delegation from the Communist League of Yugoslavia made an official visit to Angola from 18 to 24 January. It had been invited by the MPLA-Labor Party. The delegation was led by Milos Minic, member of the presidency of the league's Central Committee and president of the federal social council for foreign policy. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 30 Jan 81 p 268]

EEC FOOD AID--The European Commission has approved the Council's proposed appropriation to grant immediate assistance to Angola in the form of 250 tons of powdered milk. The Angolan authorities urgently asked for a small amount of milk out of the 1980 food program that will be distributed free to 2 million people (children, elderly and pregnant women) who are alarmingly malnourished and are just now coming out of the bush where they had taken refuge. This immediate aid is on top of any assistance activity decided on in the context of the 1981 program. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3550] 9631

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CAMEROON

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH GDR--On 18 December in East Berlin, the GDR and Cameroon signed a trade agreement involving bilateral cooperation in economic, industrial, and technical-scientific sectors. This agreement, the duration of which has not been spelled out, was signed for the GDR by Mr Friedmar Clausnitzer, deputy minister of foreign trade, and by Mr Pierre Desire Engo, deputy minister of economy and planning for Cameroon. The same day, Mr Engo, who was staying in the GDR heading a Cameroonian Government delegation, was received by Mr Horst Soellgn, East German minister of foreign trade. During the meeting, the two men decided among other things to increase the cooperation between their two countries. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3544] 9064

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COMORO ISLANDS

REACTION TO CREATION OF OPPOSITION COMMITTEE REPORTED

Paris AFRIQUE-ASIE in French 22 Dec 80 pp 34-35

[Article by Elie Ramaro]

[Text] Ubu in the perfumed archipelago...where, from a side-splitting session of the Comoro Islands Federal Assembly, one can tell that the regime set up by the mercenary Bob Denard will not be around much longer....

The story unfolds in Moroni, the comic-opera capital of the Comoro Islands: since the arrival of Bob Denard, the return of Ahmed Abdallah and the assassination of the revolutionary leader Ali Soilih, everything has been restored to the old order which prevailed during colonial days. The functionaries, chased out by Soilih's friends, have reopened their offices, manifesting their usual self-complacency: the lines of beggars or poor peasants who have come by foot from the very end of the Grand Comoro, waiting before closed doors. "He is out.... He is in a meeting.... He is going to return."

The new "Presidential Guard," organized on the Gabonese model, is 300 men strong and handsomely paid (80,000 CFA francs a month, which, in the Comoro Islands, is an exceptional salary); it trains, goose-stepping, under the supervision of Bob Denard's mercenaries, who form its officer corps. In the barracks around Moroni and on the islands of Moheli and Anjouan, soldiers of the National Army, fairly tattered--and paid only 15,000 CFA francs a month--are commanded by officers and noncommissioned officers of the French military technical assistance.

The economy, business, the several development projects are in the hands of the "gang of three," who completely control export-import in tandem with Gilbert Bourgeaud--alias "Bob Denard"--and Christian Olagharay, his principal confederate, who owns the only large garage of the archipelago, the navigation company, etc. These are, on the Comoro side, President Ahmed Abdallah himself--beyond doubt one of the richest men of the south Indian Ocean; his former "copresident," Mohammed Ahmed, and a local big businessman of Indian ancestry, Kalfan.

Saudis anxious to bestow their liberalities, international investors dispensing credits, are being insistently beseeched to rain down their manna preferably on the island of Anjouan, the fatherland of Ahmed Abdallah. The Mayotte case is almost forgotten. The youth are asked to behave at school, to frequent the mosques and to obey their elderly parents. The few people of consequence judged to be dangerous to the regime, such as former Minister of Foreign Affairs Mouzaouir Abdallah, are under constant surveillance by the famous guard. The team of hard-core Soilihists--about 20 men--are still locked up; for more than 2 years they have been awaiting an unlikely judgement.

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It was in this climate of decomposition and expectancy that the "Kemal affair" exploded, several months ago, like a thunderbolt. Said Ali Kemal, one of the sons of the late prince Said Ibrahim, appointed ambassador from the Comoro Islands to France by Abdallah in 1978, solemnly resigned his post and decided to go into exile in France. "In the name of God, the compassionate and merciful," he accused President Abdallah of having prevented any change, of having refused an opening toward youth and of having completely abandoned the peasant population to its great misery.

Last October, Said Ali Kemal repeated the offense, announcing from Paris the creation of a National Committee of Public Salvation: thus, for the first time since the coup d'etat of the mercenaries, a "credible" Comoria person of consequence spoke his mind publicly and proposed to serve as a rallying point for all innovative forces of the archipelago in order to offer the country an alternative. Kemal then called for the immediate resignation of Ahmed Abdallah and declared that he was ready to constitute a government of national union which would begin by liberating political prisoners, organizing elections and promoting a return to normal political life.

Better yet: he advocated the urgent reestablishment of normal relations with Madagascar and the entry of the Comoro Islands into the concert of nonaligned nations in the struggle for an "Indian Ocean zone of peace."

The repercussions of this initiative were incalculable in the Comoro Islands: Abdallah, infuriated, came even to distrust his best friends; the deputies of the Federal Assembly, all "elected" on his orders, came to blows; the mercenaries who had remained in the Comoro Islands, in positions of command--"Major Charlie," "Captain Jerry," "Christian," "Love Throat"--began to realize that their paradisiacal stay in the perfumed archipelago might be interrupted before long. And everyone thinks they detect everywhere the underground action of "Kemal committees" busy gnawing away at the regime from without and from within, right up to the very corridors of government and the assembly.

The assembly itself? Soilih had closed it, like everything else, because of idleness and incompetence. Abdallah brought it back to life and stamped his style on it. The other week, it sat therefore, in special session, with one single point on its agenda: voting a resolution of solidarity with Ahmed Abdallah, its boss who had been so severely lampooned by Kemal. The text states that the assembly rejects every subversive movement, energetically condemns any attempt at trying to gain power by military force (while the regime itself came into being by a coup d'etat and, moreover, is perpetuated by foreign mercenaries), asks Abdallah to continue to exercise full power and calls upon him to refuse to permit the creation of any political parties, on as well as off the islands.

It was supposed to be a pro forma meeting. But it was entirely disorderly, to the stupefaction of diplomatic observers.

President Taki: "Here is the resolution. I put it to a vote."

Said Attoumani, Ahmed Abdallah's former interior minister, who was considered only a few months ago to be the strongman of the regime: "Are we elected officials or children obliged to do as we are told?"

Taki: "We have to vote first: you can speak afterward."

The result: 7 deputies, out of 29 present, abstained from approving the resolution.

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Former strongman Said Attooumani: "Democracy is being ridiculed. Everything is going downhill. There are serious problems, and all you can find to do is talk about Kemal...."

"Shut up and get out!" President Taki shouted at him.

The rebel refused. Prime Minister Salim Benali agreed to call in the police force. Some deputies were opposed to this. A shoving match ensued. With a gesture, Taki-- who realized that the meeting was being transmitted live by Radio-Comoro--gave the signal, but a little late, to cut the antenna. Already, around the assembly building, informed listeners were crowding to witness the event at firsthand.

In Moroni, people are still talking about it. And awaiting the next incidents....

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COMORO ISLANDS

EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND PROVIDES CREDITS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANNEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3550

[Text] We indicated on page 3491 of our 19 December 1980 issue that the fifth European Development Fund (EDF) indicative program for Comoros involves over 5 billion Comorian francs (100 million French francs). This program was the subject of the EEC mission to the Comoros from 29 November to 6 December led by Deputy Development Director Michel Hauswirth from the European Communities Commission. In fact, the program will come to between 13 and 16 million European units of account [UC] (between 77.3 and 95.2 million French francs) including 1.6 million UC (952,000 French francs) in the form of loans on special terms. The credits will be broken down as follows:

1. Opening up isolated areas and economic infrastructure, 60 percent: port development at Moroni and Moheli; development of local energy resources (hydroelectric on Moheli and Anjouan, geothermal on Grand Comoro).
2. Agricultural development, 18 percent: crop diversification assistance, particularly continuing with the corn program; soil restoration in the Nioumakele region (Anjouan).
3. Social infrastructure, 9 percent: supplying drinking water.
4. Microprojects, 2 percent: improving living conditions for rural population (water, electricity, health, education).
5. Trade promotion, 0.5 percent.
6. Training, 2.5 percent.
7. Reserve fund, 8 percent.

During the fifth EDF, under the regional projects program Comoros will also be able to receive financial aid of between 15 and 20 million UC (88 to 118 million French francs).

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COMORO ISLANDS

BRIEFS

AGRICULTURAL SALES POOR--The slump in sales of agricultural products, including ylang-ylang and especially vanilla, is greatly reducing the chances for Comoros to get the credit it needs so badly for its economy and social welfare activity. But the Comorian authorities recently asserted that they are determined to pursue their policy of stockpiling and possible destruction of stock as necessary instead of agreeing to lower prices European and American importers are calling for. President Ahmed Abdallah revealed his feelings about this to an American journalist questioning him on the subject: "It is unjust, inhuman and inconceivable that the same people who constantly raise the prices of manufactured goods they sell us continue to generally set the prices of our agricultural products and of raw materials only to their own advantage without any concern for the fate of our starved producers and our economies which they are suffocating. As for our vanilla, we prefer to any event to stockpile or destroy it as necessary rather than agree to the lower prices they are shamelessly asking for." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3550] 9631

BANK MISSIONS, KUWAITI DELEGATION--An African Development Bank (ADB) mission spent 2 weeks (22 November to 6 December 1980) in Comoros to study certain projects affecting economic and social development. The World Bank sent two field missions during the same period both to evaluate existing projects under financing of the IDA [International Development Association] (the road-building program in particular) and to bring up to date the socioeconomic report completed in 1977-1978, which is an outstanding reference document on Comoros. Finally, a delegation from Kuwait stayed in Comoros from 6 to 10 December in connection with existing relations and ties between the two countries. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3550] 9631

DELEGATION TO ISLAMIC MEETING--A Comorian delegation led by Mikidache Abdou' Rahim, technical adviser in the president's office, took part in the 22-27 November 1980 meetings of the Economic, Technical and Cultural Committee of the Islamic Conference General Secretariat as part of the preparation for the meetings of the Islamic Conference Foreign Affairs Ministers Council. The council is to consider the broad strategy options for the Muslim countries' "development decade" as well as the options the Islamic Solidarity Fund board of directors is facing. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3550] 9631

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GAMBIA

NEW PROMISES OF CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3533

[Article: "New Promises of Constitutional Reform"]

[Text] On 21 December, President Dauda Jawara renewed a promise already made nearly 2 years ago (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS of 1 June 1979, page 1489), to reform the Gambian constitution. He asserted that this reform would be studied during the next congress of the government party, the People's Progressive Party [PPP], which is to be held next May.

The new constitution is expected to have a socialist character and to produce a decentralization of power. Moreover, the president spoke of a "socialist PPP," and it was noted that this was the first time that such a label was officially given to the party.

The discovery of a plot, the breaking off of diplomatic relations with Libya, the beginning of unrest and the recourse to Senegalese troupes, last November (MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS of 21 November 1980, page 3089), apparently prompted the authorities not to delay further the promised reforms.

Furthermore, it has been noted that Gambia already practices pluralism (the opposition party, the National Congress Party [NCP] has 5 seats in parliament as against 29 for the PPP), and if it were to opt for a socialist policy, Senegalese fashion, the government party would fulfill the conditions required for being a member of the Socialist Interafrican as well as the Socialist International. It is also being added that the PPP is even a member of the committee in charge of preparations for the constituent congress of the Interafrican, which is to be held in February 1981 in Tunis.

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GUINEA-BISSAU

BRIEFS

JAPANESE AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE--Japan has granted financial assistance amounting to 200 million yen (approximately 200 million CFA) to Guinea-Bissau under the terms of an agreement signed in Dakar. The donation will finance a rice growing project in the Rio Gaba basin in the western-central part of the country. Japanese Ambassador Sono Uchida announced at the same time that a team of Japanese experts will visit Bissau next April. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 30 Jan 81 p 248]

LIBYAN DELEGATION--A Libyan delegation visited Bissau on 25 and 26 January to assess the situation in Africa and bilateral cooperation. The delegation was led by Mr Al Obeidi, secretary of the "People's Bureau for Foreign Relations." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 30 Jan 81 p 248]

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MALI

TRAORE EXPRESSES DESIRE TO REINTEGRATE UMOA

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 309

[Text] Returning to Bamako after participating in the third Islamic summit in Ta., President Moussa Traore of Mali stopped over in Paris on 29 and 30 January, where he met with the president of the French republic. The 21st session of the mixed Franco-Malian commission was simultaneously taking place in Paris from 28 January to 2 February.

President Traore himself referred to the fact that Mali may rejoin the West African Monetary Union (UMAO). This problem is all the more pressing because the various monetary agreements signed between France and Mali at the time the latter had negotiated in 1967 its return to the franc zone it had left in 1962 expire on 3 May of this year. The Franco-Malian agreements of 15 February 1967 and 19 December 1967, as well as the 28 March 1968 agreement which had insured the convertibility of the Malian franc through a guarantee by the French Treasury had been renewed on 3 May 1977 for a 4-year period.

The withdrawal of the Malian franc and its replacement by the franc CFA would eventually pose a number of problems. A delegation from the West African States Central Bank under governor Fadiga came to Bamako on 2 February to study these problems and various measures will be reviewed during the period of transition by the competent monetary authorities. Thus, despite the desire expressed by all interested parties to reply as soon as possible to Mali's request, it does not appear probable that its reintegration could be effected soon, and probably not before the end of this year.

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MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

FOREIGN TRADE--Foreign trade for 1979 amounted to 18.6 billion meticals and exports reached 8.3 billion (33 meticals per dollar). Main exported products were cashews, cotton, sisal, copra, tea, sugar and shrimp. Having based its development during the years after independence on assistance from Eastern bloc countries, Mozambique is now increasingly looking to the West. Trade with France in 1979 amounted to 130 million francs in French sales against 53 million in purchases of Mozambican products. [Excerpts] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 295]

FRUIT JUICE PRODUCTION--Mozambique has two citrus fruit juice plants. One of them, the Loumar plant, was modernized last year and was able to produce about 1,400,000 liters in 1980, compared to 843,000 the year before, 760,000 liters in 1978 and 330,000 liters in 1973. Production goals for this year have been set at 1,600,000 liters, but following continued modernizing of the equipment, production should reach 4,750,000 liters. The company should start exporting its products as of this year. [Excerpt] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 329]

COAL PRODUCTION UP--In 1980, the Moatize coal mines exploited by the CARBOMOC Company exceeded by 15,000 tons their production forecasts of 390,000 tons, despite the fact that this company had been paralyzed during the first quarter of the year. [Excerpt] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 6 Feb 81 p 329]

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NIGER

BRIEFS

SWISS FINANCING AGREEMENT -- On 4 December, a financing agreement, in the amount of 360 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs, was signed between Switzerland and Niger. Because of this agreement, the West Africa section of the Swiss Ministry of Cooperation is financing two projects related to the National Forestry Commission. The first project, in the amount of 200 million CFA francs (the Swiss share is 160 million) is intended for the development project of the *roneraie* of Dallol Maouri/ [in italics]. The long term objectives of this project are the exploitation at a sustained productivity level and the conservation of the *roneraie* of Dallol Maouri. It involves specifically the implementation of an integrated development plan and the establishment of an adjusted system of exploitation, capable of satisfying the needs of the population. The second project, in the amount of 160 million CFA francs (140 million CFA francs for the Swiss share) involves development around the */drilling/* [in italics] sites, in the department of Tahoua. The objectives of this second project are aimed at, with the participation of the people, restoring the ecological balance and improving vegetable and animal production. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3536] 8463

CCCE LOAN -- The Central Fund for Economic Cooperation [CCCE] has just granted Niger a loan of 7.1 million French francs (355 million CFA francs), which corresponds to the cost of a pilot project in the development of aquaculture. It involves, on the one hand, the feasibility study for growing tilapia (a kind of carp) in the Niger river and the hydro-agricultural dams; on the other hand, it involves popular education among the villagers, who are potential fish producers. The project is aimed at a large increase, in time, of the production of animal protein. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3540] 8463

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NIGERIA

BRIEFS

RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL--On 11 December, the leader of the opposition party, the United Party of Nigeria (UPN), Chief Obafemi Awolowo, asked for a resumption of Nigeria's diplomatic relations with Israel, broken in 1973. Chief Obafemi Awolowo feels that a resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel would be as beneficial for Nigeria as the normalization of their relations with Egypt were for the Hebrew state. The UPN moreover called for amnesty for the former head of state, Gen Yakubu Gowon, and for the former secessionist head of Biafra, Col Odumegwu Ojukwu. General Gowon, who has lived in Great Britain since his overthrow in 1975, had been implicated in the assassination of the former head of state, Gen Murtala Muhammed, in February 1976. With regard to Colonel Ojukwu, who is living in Ivory Coast, he is officially wanted for questioning on the role he played during the Biafran war. We should not forget that, defeated in the 1979 presidential elections, Chief Awolowo has remained the fiercest opponent of the current head of state, Alhaji Shehu Shagari, and that he has never missed an opportunity to try to put him in difficulty. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3541-3542] 9064

COOPERATION WITH ALGERIA--A drive was launched in Nigeria this December to send food assistance to the victims of the El Asnam earthquake in Algeria. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3542] 9064

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SENEGAL

SENGHOR SEEN LEAVING DIFFICULT ECONOMIC, POLITICAL SITUATION TO DIOUF

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 9 Jan 81 pp 59-61

[Text] There are few examples in history--in Africa especially--of heads of state who voluntarily give up power. Steeped in the classics, President Senghor must have meditated on the famous example of Quintus Cincinnatus returning to his farm after holding the highest office in Rome in the 5th century B.C. Plutarch described the simplicity with which he put down his toga and put his hand to the plow.

President Senghor wanted his departure to have the same restraint. In his very short resignation letter, given to the head of the Supreme Court, he only said he wished to give younger men responsibility for his country's leadership, which he had exercised uninterruptedly since independence. He then left Senegal and will only return in a few weeks, allowing his successor to choose his prime minister freely (which he did) and define his major policy themes.

One segment of Senegalese opposition criticized President Senghor's decision as not facing responsibilities at an exceptionally difficult time in the country's history. It is true that the sluggishness of the Senegalese economy is worrisome, true too that the world crisis, the increasing cost of petroleum and the drought do not alone explain this situation. President Senghor can be criticized for being too distant from the daily problems of the Senegalese people not concerned, except for a small intellectual minority, about the poetry and elucidation of Negritude and the French language which brought him fame. He no doubt made mistakes, giving too much responsibility to state companies. Some were so badly managed that they had to be abolished.

It would be quite unjust to emphasize only the failures of President Senghor's political work. Despite the outspoken remarks of the secretary general of the PDS [Senegalese Democratic Party], he leaves the country at peace and the succession process took place without any problems, according to the clauses of the constitution, as in old European parliamentary democracies. The government's liberalism allowed for the existence of four political parties while the activities of a scarcely clandestine Marxist-Leninist party were tolerated. Under President Senghor's authority, the multiparty system worked so well his successor can, without excessive fear, consider authorizing new political parties; this is what some brilliant personalities who have flourished

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in the freedom of Senegalese society desire. Ethnic rivalry is not as pronounced in Senegal as in most other African nations and, a Christian in a country with a very large Moslem majority, President Senghor gained the support of the two powerful religious brotherhoods, a political and economic force with which the civil power must reckon.

Finally, President Senghor's personal prestige gave Senegal exceptional status in the international community, out of proportion with the size of its population and its mediocre natural resources. Because of this regard for its president-poet, Senegal has received among the highest amounts of foreign aid (not just French) per inhabitant for 20 years.

In looking back on his term, President Senghor can be proud of the considerable achievements in public education, industrialization and social affairs.

Certainly, President Abdou Diouf has a difficult succession, because it is a formidable task to follow a man as renowned as President Senghor and because the international economic situation is no more favorable to Senegal, without oil for some years to come, than to most other African nations. He must make Senegalese administration manage public affairs more effectively and probably disarm opposition critics who want a greater national independence from the West and especially from the former guardian power.

With the voluntary departure on 31 December 1980 of President Leopold Sedar Senghor who, for 20 years from independence, was the head of state, Senegal turned an important page in its history.

The Senegalese president's resignation was viewed in various ways. Some saw it as an exemplary, courageous act while others considered it a spectacular relinquishment of power when the country is in a serious economic crisis.

However, Mr Senghor never concealed his intention to retire from the political scene: "I am not leaving to set an example for other African heads of state. I am leaving because that is what should be done at the appropriate time. This is what I will accomplish. If I wish to set an example, it is for my Senegalese successors so that they too, after completing their task, will have the courage to leave."

Moreover, in his last speech to the Senegalese nation, the president insisted on recalling: "When I was elected in 1960, my primary goal was to train a team to replace me politically.... After my election that year as first president of the Republic of Senegal, I decided in 1961 to retire at the end of my term to return to teaching and my research." The abortive coup d'etat on 17 December 1962 made the president reconsider.

In the same message to the nation, Mr Leopold Sedar Senghor noted the progress his country had made since independence: "In 1960, our annual per capita income was \$160.00; in 1979, it was \$463.00, an overall tripling of incomes...even though in 19 years, we have had 9 years of drought when we lost from one-third to two-thirds of our harvest every year."

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That is not all. In 1962, Senegal had 53,663 wage earners; in 1977, there were 176,990; in other words, in 14 years, the number of wage earners had more than tripled. In 1960, Senegalese capital in businesses was 5 percent; in 1979, it amounted to some 34 percent. Industry in 1960 represented 18 percent of the GNP; in 1978, it amounted to 28 percent. Today, we are still the most industrialized French-speaking country of Black Africa--I did not say the richest. Finally, speaking of economic infrastructures, there were less than 1,000 km of surfaced roads in 1960; today in 1980, we have 3,444 km. In education, we have achieved the best quantitative, but especially qualitative results. Between 1960 and 1980, the number of children in primary schools has increased from 107,789 to some 400,000. The number of high school students increased from 9,534 to 85,374 and the number of college students from some 1,000 to more than 13,000."

#### A Difficult Situation

Despite these achievements, President Senghor leaves his successor, Mr Abdou Diouf, prime minister for 10 years, a nation in a difficult political and economic situation.

As we stressed (See "Marches Tropicaux," 25 April 1980, p 963), 1980 will be the worst year in Senegalese history. Only 423,000 tons of peanuts (based on shell counts) from the 1979-1980 harvest were marketed. Compared with figures from preceding years (especially 1975-1976: 1,178,000 tons marketed), Senegal's harvest last year was the worst in 10 years.

Along with the decrease in exports and hence its foreign currency resources, Senegal has continued to increase its imports. Its petroleum bill alone amounted to 50 billion CFA francs.

Senegal's external debt, which amounted to 133.1 billion CFA francs in late December 1979, has increased considerably.

Moreover, despite international aid, Senegal will still have 4 difficult years until 1984, as President Senghor stressed. "Then," added the former head of state, "we will begin to use our resources which are not enormous but are not negligible either. Over 10 years ago, petroleum and iron were discovered respectively off-shore and at sea. We will begin to pump our petroleum in 1983 and mine our iron in 1985-1986. At the same time, we will be able to exploit our other energy resources--peat, lignite and uranium as well as oil."

In accordance with article 35 of the Senegalese constitution, the new head of state will hold office until April 1983, when his predecessor's term would have normally ended. The economic and financial recovery plan, with its austerity measures, will be in effect during this entire period; it may be the target of criticism and attacks from the legal as well as clandestine opposition.

The great political unknown is the attitude of the Moslem brotherhoods whose power is considerable, since Moslems represent approximately 87 percent of the

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population of Senegal.

President Senghor spent his last weeks as head of state meeting the most important religious leaders in the country to thank them for their support. After Tivaouane, the holy city of the Tidjanes (group to which President Abdou Diouf belongs) and the Ndiassanes, the former head of state went to Touba, the holy city of the Mourides, at the time of the great Magal. The khalif general of the Mourides, Serigne Abdou Lahat Mbacke, stated he would heed and help anyone who wanted to aid the people: "I will speak with and work with him, but the person who does nothing will have nothing in common with me as long as I live," he stressed, thus giving conditional support to the new head of state.

Accepting the Challenge of the 80's

Presenting his successor to the Senegalese people, Mr Leopold Sedar Senghor emphasized that, faced with the economic situation, Mr Abdou Diouf had the advantage of being "a legal and financial specialist.... In my successor, one will find all virtues; first, competence, honesty and modesty--I did not say humility--we African intellectuals possess this modesty so rarely. I add that he is more determined than one thinks. You will soon find that out."

"I admire and remain faithful to my master," stated Mr Abdou Diouf in his first address to the nation. "But as he taught me, the disciple's fidelity and the master's inspiration do not in any way alter their respective personalities.... I will continue President Senghor's work, make changes and preserve what has been achieved. Starting today, I accept the challenge of the 80's."

The head of state said: "Our country must live according to its means. We must work harder to increase these means. We must economize in order to invest more and thus improve our country's ability to weather all kinds of economic hardships and make progress despite difficulties. We are already committed along these lines because of our economic and financial recovery plan. This policy will be carried out vigorously because it alone will enable our country to rediscover the great equilibrium known to economists and vital to any policy of economic and social development, in the greatest possible independence. This policy is all the more necessary because the 1980 rainy season was catastrophic. Despite the difficulties, I assure you that the government will do everything possible to prevent famine and see the people are properly nourished...."

On the international scene, a major change is not expected in the near future in relations with other countries. Senegal's foreign policy is currently that of a moderate African country--hostile to Soviet, Cuban and Libyan activities in Africa, concerned about the conflict in nearby Western Sahara and committed to the large economic communities being set up in West Africa. Some observers feel, however, that Mr Diouf could, in the future, show a little more concern for his country's economic recovery than for the role Senegal could play in the diplomatic arena, where President Senghor made his mark.

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#### Toward Political Liberalization

Before giving Mr Diouf the oath of office, Mr Keba Mbaye, the first head of the Supreme Court, made a speech advocating "political liberalization." He spoke in favor of a reformed electoral system, where "pre- and postjurisdictional control would clear up any doubts about the accuracy of voting results." He added, "Those governing and those governed, political party members or not, must accept without reservation the principle of succession at the highest levels of government."

In domestic policy matters, Mr Abdou Diouf promised "to guarantee political parties and respect all liberties. Democratic liberalization will be consolidated and strengthened. Republican order will reign because there is a firm, just and rigorous authority in a strong and respected nation."

The fact that the proposals for political liberalization were made by a judge removed from the partisan struggles added force to his words which sounded like a real address to the nation.

Mr Mbaye's remarks confirmed the recent persistent rumors that Mr Abdou Diouf might enlarge the political arena. Currently, by law, there are only four parties with obligatory labels: Socialist Party (in power), a liberal party (PDS), a conservative party (Senegalese Republican Movement) and a Marxist Party (African Independence Party.) This limit was mainly due to the fact that, when launching the Senegalese multiparty experiment in 1974, the Socialist Party, until then the only real party for 8 years, contested the allocation of electoral votes (the PDS had 17 seats out of 100 in the National Assembly.)

The task of getting the party in power used to the multiparty system and, as head of the Socialist parliamentary group, dealing with the first opposition attacks, fell to Mr Habib Thiam, former minister of plans and rural development, who had a great deal of experience in political and economic matters; he was named prime minister as soon as President Diouf took office.

Mr Abdou Diouf might, according to well-informed sources in the Senegalese capital, quickly modify the law limiting the number of parties and the voting law.

One theory mentioned among others is that the reform law would allow for the election of 80 deputies out of 100 on a single member ballot (currently these elections are held with a proportional ballot) and the other 20 on a national list. This system, already in effect in some countries, gives the party which comes to power a clear majority. Mr Diouf could thus hope that the Socialist Party would win and increase his power.

Early elections would give the new president a free hand. In fact, Mr Diouf, because of the constitution which makes the prime minister the automatic successor to the head of state in the event of resignation, has inherited power and only has the 2 remaining years of President Senghor's interrupted term.

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By moving quickly to hold elections, Mr Diouf could, if he wins, have 5 years of enhanced power which he needs to "take up the economic and social challenges of the 80's," mentioned in his speech to the nation.

Some political opposition groups have favorably received the proposals for political liberalization. Mr Shaykh Anta Diop, leader of the National Democratic Rally, an illegal opposition party, described Mr Mbaye's speech on liberalization and the reform voting law as "positive." Mr Mahjout Diop, head of the legal African Independence Party stated, "as long as the government moves forward, it can count on our support to achieve political independence and economic independence."

Only the PDS continues to call for "free and democratic elections" under the army's supervision. In danger of being overtaken both on the right and left by new parties, the party fears it will be the great loser in the political liberalization by the new head of state.

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SENEGAL

EIB LOAN TO SONACOS GRANTED

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3532

[Article: "SONACOS: A 782 Million CFA Franc Loan From the European Investment Bank"]

[Text] Within the framework of the first convention of Lome, the European Investment Bank [EIB], the Community's banking institution for long term financing, has granted a loan of an exchange value of 3 million units of account [UC] (approximately 782 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs) to contribute to the modernization and expansion of the capacity to process peanuts and cotton for the production of oil and oilcake at Ziguinchor, in the region of Casamance.

The loan was granted to the National Company for the Marketing of Oil-Producing Plants [SONACOS], a mixed economy company, created in 1975, which controls most of the marketing of oil-producing plants, specifically peanut products -- Senegal is the fourth world producer and largest exporter of peanuts. The duration of the loan is 10 years, the interest rate is 8 percent, taking into account an interest rebate on the resources of the European Development Fund [EDF], in accordance with the stipulations of the convention.

The investments to which the EIB lends its support -- the total cost of which is estimated at 6.4 million UC (1,881 million CFA francs) --, are aimed, through the creation of plants or the modernization of existing facilities, at increasing the region's processing capacity from 65,000 to 90,000 tons of peanuts. If it were not quickly remedied, the lack of capacities in this region would make it mandatory to transport some 25,000 tons per year to Dakar (500 kilometers) under expensive circumstances. On the other hand, plants for the processing of already ginned cotton seeds will also be built in this region, where cotton growing is experiencing a rapid development. The current processing capacity of Senegal is only 20,000 tons per year, while production is expected to reach 35,000 tons of seeds in the next few years.

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SENEGAL

CHANGE IN BIAO STATUS

Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3532

[Article: "BIAO-Senegal: Capital Increase and Government Participation (35 Percent)"]

[Text] As of 15 December, the BIAO [International Bank for West Africa]-Senegal became a limited, mixed economy, company under Senegalese law. Henceforth, Senegal will hold 35 percent of its capital, which has been raised from 2,000 to 3,077 million CFA [African Financial Community] francs. The BIAO-Senegal day was celebrated with the presence of Mr Abdou Diouf, prime minister, and of Mr Jean Dromer, president and managing director of the BIAO for West Africa.

MARCHES TROPICAUX had announced (see the 11 July 1980 issue, page 1737) the fact that, as of 28 June 1980, the BIAO branch office in Senegal had become a subsidiary. The bank has 10 branches and offices as against 3 at the time of independence.

During his speech, Mr Dromer stressed the importance of his bank in the Senegalese economy: "The entry balance sheet, retroactive to 1 January 1980, thus prior to the capital increase, totaled 42.3 billion CFA francs and the nonbalance liabilities 7.2 billion CFA francs. Compared to all the commercial banks, of which there are 7, its share of the market is 18 percent in credits to the economy and 16.50 percent in deposits. Out of a total of 482 employees, there are 173 officers and 17 national executives (...)."

"The BIAO-Senegal," Mr Dromer added, "like the other subsidiaries, can rely on active support from the parent company: the International Bank for West Africa which, in April 1965, added the qualifying term 'international' to its former corporate name (...). This aid consists in the first place of its African character and of the very size of the group which holds 65 percent of the capital (BIAO group)."

In conclusion, Mr Dromer stressed before Mr Abdou Diouf that "a good start for the BIAO-Senegal is obviously a function of the health of the country, which also has to overcome so many adverse elements: drought, energy expenditures, deterioration of the terms of trade."

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SENEGAL

BRIEFS

AGRICULTURAL CREDIT -- On 22 December, the World Bank and its subsidiaries extended a credit of \$60 million to Senegal for the financing of a program of "structural adjustments," providing primarily for "the development of the productive sector and the reorganization of the institutions in the agricultural sector." [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3531] 8463

CCCE LOAN -- The Central Fund for Economic Development [CCCE] will grant a special 120 million franc loan to Senegal, in order to help that country's economy "face difficult economic circumstances." This decision was made during the fifth meeting of the Franco-Senegalese Ministerial Committee, which was held in Paris, from 15 until 18 December, under the chairmanship of Messrs Louis Alexandrenne, Senegalese minister of plan and cooperation, and Robert Galley, French minister of cooperation. The Committee also decided to give priority to development activities in the agricultural sector, specifically to the reorganization of the production of peanuts and to cattle raising. As for the industrial and mining sector, it was decided to support the new chemical industry project (production of phosphoric acid and of fertilizers), and to establish a mineral plan, including an assessment of earlier studies and proposing new lines of research. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3532] 8463

ANTI-FRAUD CAMPAIGN -- On 12 December, in Kaolack, Mr Ousmane Seck, Senegalese minister of state for finance and economy, presided over a meeting of the anti-fraud States General. The meeting focused on the need to double vigilance with regard to smugglers because of the economic difficulties of the country and the low level of peanut production. As for the director general of customs, he stressed the disturbing development of smuggling in recent years in Senegal. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3532] 8463

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TANZANIA

# BRIEFS

RELAUNCHING OF SISAL PRODUCTION -- On 15 December, speaking to officials of the sisal industry in Tanga, the Tanzanian prime minister, Mr Cleopa Msuya, stated that it was necessary to relaunch the production of sisal in Tanzania. He noted that the government intended to set up a special fund to allow the importation of machinery and spare parts, in order to increase sisal production. Due to exports, this production brings in approximately 400 million shillings a year for Tanzania. The prime minister asked the officials involved in the production of sisal to improve the social services being offered to the workers, in order to motivate them and to encourage them to make a production effort. As for the chairman of the Tanzania Sisal Authority, he announced that the Authority would be split up into five companies in the framework of a policy of decentralization. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3548] 8463

GDR ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS -- Tanzania and the German Democratic Republic have signed two agreements on economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation as well as on the creation of a mixed commission for cooperation. The first meeting of this commission is to be held in 1981. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3548] 8463

NBC OPERATIONS IN 1979/1980 -- During its fiscal year 1979-1980, the National Bank of Commerce [NBC] of Tanzania made a profit of 480 million Tanzanian shillings, that is to say an increase of 77 million compared to the previous fiscal year. However, on the occasion of the 20th congress of the NBC workers, the deputy Tanzanian minister of finance, Mr Venance Ngula, commented that in 1979/1980, bank credits in Tanzania had exceeded the expected ceilings by 10 to 15 percent. Consequently, he asked the NBC to be more cautious in its allocation of credits and to ensure that the latter are not diverted from their original objectives by para-statal companies which benefit from them. On the other hand, the minister was pleased about the fact that deposits at the NBC had increased from 7.14 billion shillings in June 1979 to 9.03 billion in June 1980. [Text] [Paris MARCHES TROPICAUX ET MEDITERRANEENS in French 26 Dec 80 p 3548] 8463

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UGANDA

CHIEF OF STAFF INTERVIEWED

Khartoum SUDANOW in English Jan 81 p 23

[Interview with Brigadier David Oyite Ojok, Chief of Staff of the Ugandan Liberation Forces, in Murchison Falls National Park, by Arop Madut of SUDANOW, date not given]

[Text] *One of the most outspoken of the Ugandan delegates at Chobe Lodge was Brigadier David Oyite Ojok, Chief of Staff of the Ugandan Liberation Forces and a leading member of Uganda's provisional ruling authority, the Military Commission. During the four-day conference he discussed the background to the talks with Arop Madut of Sudanow:*

*SUDANOW: Can you give us the true picture of what happened in West Nile Province last October?*

*OJOK: In fact many things have been happening in Uganda since we removed Amin from power over two and half years ago. To relate them all would be a long story. I shall refer only to the recent tragic events which are still fresh in our memories. Last October in the West Nile Province armed men dressed in civilian clothes attacked our forces at Yumbe and Koboka during their routine parades. During this incident many innocent lives were lost.*

*Since the war ended in April 1979, our desire as a people and as a government has been to settle down and work hard to rebuild Uganda. The October events have been a set-back to all of us in this part of the world. However, we are glad to have received the assurances of the Sudan government that Sudan is helping us and will continue to give us assistance should the need arise. We are very grateful to the Sudan government and hope that all our neighbours will act in a similar fashion.*

*Q: Since the liberation of your country last year, a state of insecurity seems to have prevailed in many parts of Uganda, especially in urban centres. Who is responsible for this?*

*A: We do have a problem, especially in Kampala where many bad things happen daily. But our security forces are determined to do their best to maintain law and order. As to who or what is responsible for this state of insecurity in our country, there are two factors at work. First, Uganda like many developing countries has enemies both within and outside its territory. First there are the reactionary and the counter-revolutionary forces who cause trouble in order to achieve selfish and personal gains at the expense of public suffering. You should remember that we have just come out of a shooting war, not a round-table conference. We did not negotiate with Amin. So the problems and the price of such a struggle are very enormous when compared with those liberation wars won at a conference table. Second, when we drove Amin's forces out of Kampala all the jails were thrown open, allowing the escape of prisoners convicted of various criminal charges. These criminals are still at large and are among the people causing the state of insecurity, particularly in the urban areas.*

*Q: It is believed that the ruling Military Commission in Uganda is composed of members who openly give their political allegiance to some of the parties at*

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*present struggling to win power in the country. Now that elections are being held under the authority of this commission, how would one guarantee that they would be free and fair?*

A: The fairness of the elections will be maintained. What should be made known to you is that the Military Commission is not divided over the running of the elections. Of course there are people who have thrown their lot in with political parties, but their political allegiance will not affect the working of the Commission. In order to elaborate my point, I will tell you this. When the Election Committee was appointed all the members of the Military Commission agreed that the committee's membership list should be sent to the four political parties for their scrutiny and approval. The parties objected to only three names, which were replaced forthwith. The Military Commission finally approved the final list of the Election Committee. It is our hope that the elections will be fair. There will be no interference by the Military Commission.

*Q: What do you think will be the role of the Military Commission after the election?*

A: It will dissolve itself and those of us like Major General Tito Ukel and myself will remain in the army as professional soldiers. Those who are contesting elections, like Colonel William Omaria, will be in parliament if they are elected. It will be recalled that those who were at Moshi were not necessarily politicians. The present chairman Paulo Muwanga was in the front-line, Major General Tito was in Kenya and was leading the advancing forces to Kampala. But all of us were appointed members of the Ugandan National Liberation Front (UNLF). We continued from there as

members of the Commission, which was one of the components of the UNLF according to the terms agreed upon at Moshi. The members of the Military Commission intervened only when we discovered that the people then charged with responsibility were making a mess of the affairs of the country.

*Q: If after elections things do not proceed as expected what will be the position of the army?*

A: We do not expect to start up again if things go wrong. In reality, the role of the Ugandan Liberation Forces will remain as intended; that of defender of the country against its adversaries.

*Q: As a citizen, what do you expect of the coming government under a parliamentary system?*

A: What does a good citizen expect of a government? A good government, of course.

*Q: Finally, what will be the role of the Tanzanian soldiers in Uganda after the elections?*

A: The Tanzanian soldiers now in Uganda did not come by night to our country, they came during broad daylight. We requested them to come and help us to remove the monster and to stop mass killing and destruction. We fought beside them, hand in hand. We saw some of them fall down dead and they saw some of us fall down dead too. It is therefore proper that we continue to work with them. We want the help of everybody, as we need their help. We are not ashamed of them and Africa should be proud of them because they have shown an example of solidarity and unity of purpose.

We shall salute them and see them go as soon as we can stand on our feet. This is the unity we in Africa should speak of, not theoretical unity. We should come closer together.

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